



August 10, 2012

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**QUILT IS LABOR OF LOVE
AND CANCER RESOURCE CENTRE FUNDRAISER**

MUNSTER – For the past five years, Mary Lou Miller-Ryan has walked as part a team to help raise funding for cancer patients and their family members. This year, she wanted to step up her contribution and offer comfort, too, in the form of a beautiful, heirloom quilt. Proceeds from the quilt raffle will benefit the programs of the Cancer Resource Centre in Munster.

Through her work as office manager at the Healthy Kids Care Center in St. John, Miller-Ryan joined co-workers in a fundraising event each fall called Romp ‘n Roll. Proceeds from the walk/fun-run benefit the Cancer Resource Centre, a program of the Community Cancer Research Foundation, Inc. The Centre works to educate, inform, and uplift individuals fighting cancer along with their family members.

“Several of my family members have had cancer, so I wanted to get involved,” said Miller-Ryan. “They’re the ones who’ve inspired me to take on this project.”

Besides raising funds for the Centre with the Healthy Kids Care Romp ‘n Roll team, this year Miller-Ryan promised to donate her time and creative talents to make a quilt – a symbol of care and comfort.

“It was a labor of love,” Miller-Ryan said.

It took 50 hours, fabric/patterns from two artists and help from her sister Jan McGrath who owns bits ‘n pieces quilting supply store in Crown Point to complete the unique design. The colorful outside border fabric contains scenes from the famous Georges Seurat painting, “Sunday in the Park.” The inside pattern is called “Rancher’s Daughters” which resembles a fence that encircles stars or figures set into the middle of a large yard.

(more)

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A major fundraising event, the 9th annual Romp and Roll Walk and Fun Run is scheduled to kick off at 12 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 7 at Munster High School Football Field. Raffle tickets for the quilt by Mary Lou Miller-Ryan will be sold at the Romp and Roll event at \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

Raffle tickets also are available at the Healthy Kids Care Center, 9660 Wicker Blvd. in St. John, CFNI Marketing Department, 800 MacArthur Blvd., Suite 8-9, Munster and the Cancer Resource Centre, 926 Ridge Road, Munster.

The Cancer Resource Centre offers a welcoming, comfortable setting to visitors who wish to review educational materials, gather to meet socially, attend special events or classes or participate in a professionally-led group for support. Patients and their families will find a tranquil setting where they can come to celebrate life, deal with hardships and find answers to their questions.

“We offer patients and their families a safe environment, a warm environment, a non-medical place where they can come to celebrate life, deal with hardships and get answers to questions,” said Anthony Andello, director of the Cancer Resource Centre. “Whatever direction a patient or family chooses to go, we’re here for support.”

Visits have totaled more than 25,000 since the Centre first opened its doors nine years ago. All services, which include support groups, educational programs and networking groups, are offered to cancer patients and their families free of charge, including those receiving care from medical treatment facilities other than the hospitals of Community Healthcare System: Community Hospital in Munster, St. Catherine Hospital in East Chicago and St. Mary Medical Center in Hobart. The Centre is funded from generous donations and grants, in-kind donations and volunteer support.

Learn more about the Cancer Resource Centre by visiting www.cancerresourcecentre.com. To be a part of this year’s Romp and Roll event, visit www.rompandroll.org. For more information call: 219-836-3349.